

SOVEREIGN GRACE CHURCH

January 8th, 2017

“Save, LORD: let the KING
hear us when we call.”

PSALM 20:9 (ROMANS 10:13)

JOSEPH D. MURPHY, PASTOR

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Schedule of Services

Sunday School 10:00 am
Sunday Worship 11:00 am
Wednesday Worship 7:00 pm

Nursery

Nursery available for 4 years old and younger

Happy Birthday!

Samantha Spring - January 9th, Axel Caffee - January 14th,

This evening's featured podcast speaker will be our PASTOR

MALACHI 2:1-9—COVENANT OF LIFE AND PEACE

To find our podcast search for the keyword **PurposedGrace** on



Apple's **Podcast App** or



Google's **Play Music App**

*** Our featured sermon is made available every Sunday at 6:00 PM**

MAKE MENTION OF HIS RIGHTEOUSNESS, HIS ONLY

"I WILL GO IN THE STRENGTH OF THE LORD GOD: I WILL MAKE MENTION OF THY RIGHTEOUSNESS, EVEN OF THINE ONLY." PSALM 71:16

According to the vain imaginations of man there are two types of righteousness. The *righteousness of man* and the *righteousness of GOD*.

According to our LORD and GOD there is only *one righteousness*. The righteousness established by GOD himself. The *righteousness* produced by men is declared by GOD as nothing more than "*filthy rags*." (Read ISAIAH 64:6)

The next time you find yourself in a bathroom, consider those filthy rags along side you in the waste basket. GOD declares the righteousnesses of man to be just as offensive and unacceptable before Him as that stench coming out of that waste basket!

Why is that? Because there is only one type of righteousness that pleases our holy God, and that's a *holy righteousness*. Not this pretense that men trust in! King David, our brother in CHRIST, wrote "*I will go in the strength of the Lord GOD: I will make mention of thy righteousness, even of thine only*." Why does David add the words "*of thine only*"? Because the only

righteousness that pleases GOD, is the *holy* and *perfect* righteousness of the LORD JESUS CHRIST. As a man, HE established a *holy* and *perfect* righteousness on the Earth on behalf of His people to save them, and satisfy our Heavenly Father. What is it to be righteous? In order for someone to be righteous, the Holy Law of GOD can look at that person, both inwardly and outwardly, and say of him that he has perfectly obeyed the 10 commandments, both the letter and the spirit of the law.

For someone to be righteous it would mean that a person's thoughts are always pleasing and acceptable to GOD. The sad truth is that our thoughts are not pleasing or acceptable to GOD! In fact our thoughts, apart from the mind of CHRIST, are *only evil continually*. (Read *GENESIS 6:5, JEREMIAH 17:9*)

GOD declares in His word "*O Jerusalem, wash thine heart from wickedness, that thou mayest be saved. How long shall thy vain thoughts lodge within thee?*" *JEREMIAH 4:13*

The natural man vainly thinks that his thoughts are pleasing and acceptable to GOD, what vanity! Let me tell you plainly, GOD says of your thoughts and mine that "*every imagination of your heart is only evil continually*." (Read *GENESIS 6:5, PSALM 56:5, HEBREWS 4:12*)

GOD's word declares "*by Him actions are weighed*" and He says of them that continue to trust in their own actions that "*they shall not profit thee*."

Reader, I pray that it is not *you* and *your filthy works* that you will be weighed in and found wanting; but rather that you will be found in CHRIST and His *finished saving work* and *not your own*! May God make you to know, in the light of His glorious Son, that all *your righteousnesses are as filthy rags* before Him. If GOD has opened your heart, your one ardent desire will be to be found in CHRIST and His finished saving work, and not your own! To be found in CHRIST and His life, and not your own!

Friend, if you are to be saved — you will be saved by His righteousness. The work of His righteousness is peace with God. If you are to be saved — you will find yourself resting in quiet assurance, resting in CHRIST and His righteousness, not wanting to be found in a righteousness of your own making, but rather in His only. (*ISAIAH 40:1-2, PSALM 71:16*)

I trust beloved, your heart has been comforted and you have been made to know, afresh, that your warfare is accomplished, that you have received a double portion from your Lord for all your sin and iniquity, that you are no longer found in your filthy rags, but are now found in the clean and white righteousness of His Son, the LORD JESUS CHRIST. Amen.
(Read *ISAIAH 40:1-2, REVELATION 19:6-10*)

PASTOR

BY GRACE ARE YE SAVED

“EVEN WHEN WE WERE DEAD IN SINS, HATH QUICKENED US TOGETHER WITH CHRIST, (BY GRACE YE ARE SAVED;)” (READ EPHESIANS CHAPTER 2)

A gospel that puts conditions for a sinner to fulfill in order to be saved, is no gospel at all. The word of God does not speak of conditions to be met, but rather declares that salvation is by the unconditional free grace of GOD in CHRIST — *“For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God”* EPHESIANS 2:8

Every chosen sinner of GOD is not saved by his or her own repentance, but by GOD’s *grace he is saved*. A chosen sinner of GOD is not saved by receiving CHRIST, but by GOD’s *grace he is saved*.

Beloved, it is by GOD’s grace, according to His good will and pleasure, that He grants saving faith to His people, as it is declared in His word *“the gift of God”*, the faith that is not of ourselves, but rather the life and faith of Christ given freely to save a sinner like you and me.

Beloved, GOD commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us — to both justify us from our sins by *His blood*, and save us from our iniquity by *His life*. (Read ROMANS 5:8-10)

CHRIST bore our burden and gave us His rest!

The salvation of HIS people “...is finished.” JOHN 19:30

CHRIST has taken away our sins and gave us His righteousness!

Beloved, we are *“made the righteousness of God in him.”* 2CORINTHIANS 5:21. The angel of the LORD declares *“call his name JESUS: for he shall save his people from their sins.”* MATTHEW 1:21

CHRIST bore our curse and gave us His blessing!

GOD’s word declares *“Christ hath redeemed us from the curse of the law, being made a curse for us...”* GALATIANS 3:13

CHRIST has taken away our death and has given us His life!

GOD’s word declares *“He that believeth on the Son HATH everlasting life”!* JOHN 3:36

CHRIST has taken our shame and has given us His glory!

Beloved, *“...I am not ashamed: for I know whom I have believed, and am persuaded that he is able to keep that which I have committed unto him against that day.”* 2 TIMOTHY 1:12 (ROMANS 8:18-30)

CHRIST has taken our record and has given us His record!

Beloved, we are accepted in HIM and by HIM; by HIS life, by HIS faith, by His sacrifice. Beloved believing sinner “...ye are complete in HIM”! PASTOR